



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ :B29C 49/04, B60R 19/48, 19/03, B60K
11/04, B62D 21/16, 25/08, B60S 1/50

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 00/37239

(43) International Publication Date:

29 June 2000 (29.06.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/29991

(22) International Filing Date: 17 December 1999 (17.12.99)

(30) Priority Data:

60/113,064 21 December 1998 (21.12.98) US

(63) Related by Continuation (CON) or Continuation-in-Part
(CIP) to Earlier ApplicationUS 60/113,064 (CON)
Filed on 21 December 1998 (21.12.98)(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MAGNA
INTERNATIONAL OF AMERICA, INC. [US/US]; 600
Wilshire Drive, Troy, MI 48084 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): WILSON, Philip, S.
[US/US]; 5480 Huron Hills Drive, Commerce Township,
MI 48382 (US).(74) Agents: BARUFKA, Jack, S. et al.; Pillsbury Madison & Sutro
LLP, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.
20005 (US).

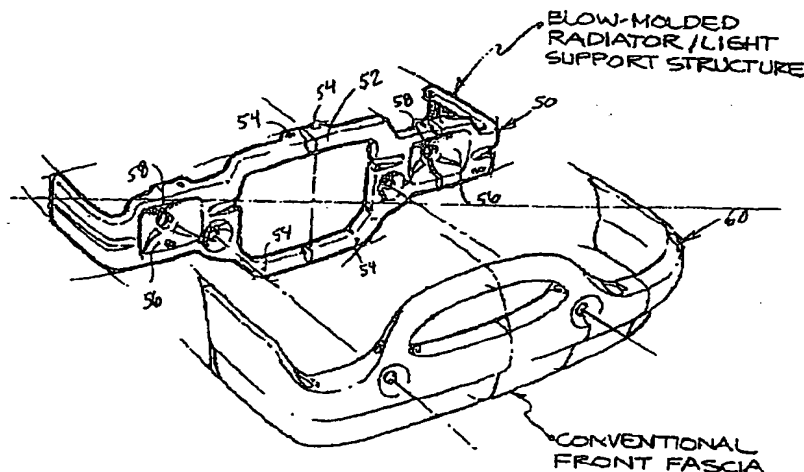
(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG,
BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE,
ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP,
KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA,
MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU,
SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG,
US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE,
LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM,
AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT,
BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU,
MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of
amendments.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BLOW MOLDING LARGE REINFORCED PLASTIC PARTS



(57) Abstract

A method for molding large parts, comprises the steps of providing a reinforced plastic melt (41) comprising at least one thermoplastic material and reinforcement particles dispersed within the at least one thermoplastic material, the reinforcement particles comprising less than 15% of a total volume of the plastic melt, at least 50% of the reinforcement particles having a thickness of less than about 20 nanometers, and at least 99% of the reinforcement particles having a thickness of less than about 30 nanometers; communicating a tubular formation of the plastic melt to a mold assembly having a mold cavity (44) defined by mold surfaces (43), the mold surfaces (43) corresponding to a configuration of the part to be molded; applying pressurized gas to an interior of the tubular formation to expand the tubular formation into conformity with the mold surfaces (43); and solidifying the plastic melt to form the part; and removing the part from the mold assembly.